NATIONAL UNION RECOMMENDED:

In ANSWER to

A late ſcurrilous Paper in the *Old England Journal* of 27th *December* 1746,

AND

An equally ſcurrilous Reply in a late Pamphlet, intituled, *The Thiſtle.*

EDINBURGH,
Printed in the Year M.DCC.XLVII.

ADVERTISEMENT.

TO *Divide*, is the old Expedient of **Jacobites** and **Party**; To UNITE, that of HONEST MEN and WHIGS: The **Thistle** may serve to convince us of the *First*, this present Performance of the *Last*.

A LETTER TO

The Author of the *Whitehall Evening-Poſt.*

SIR,

By inſerting the following, you will oblige ſome of your conſtant Readers.

THAT a Man may commit High Treaſon againſt the Body Politick, as well as againſt the Head, and that in ſuch Caſe the Offender ought to be ſuitably puniſhed, have been the favourite Doctrines of the moſt favoured Writers of our Times.

Whether theſe Doctrines are rightly founded, I ſhall not ſtay to enquire: My preſent Purpoſe is to adopt them in all their Force, and to carry them yet farther into Uſe and Application than hath hitherto been done.

Hitherto they have been directed againſt Miniſters only; on a Suppoſition, that they were the only Offenders of this Sort: But, if it ſhould appear that others have committed the ſame Treſpaſs, I am for ſubjecting them to the ſame Puniſhment.

Whoever, knowingly and wittingly, goes about to looſen the Bands of a Community, and to ſet Province

againſt Province, is a Traitor to that Conſtitution which he thus endeavours to divide and deſtroy.

When I mention the *Union* of the two Kingdoms, I believe it will occur to every Man's Recollection, that there is ſcarce a Fundamental in our whole political Syſtem that was more deliberately undertaken, more thoroughly prepared and digeſted, and more ſolemnly ratified and confirmed, than That.

And if I was to raiſe my Voice a little higher, and inſiſt, that it was one of the moſt rational and beneficial Meaſures that is to be found in the whole Compaſs of our Story, I am perſuaded that none but an avowed or concealed *Jacobite* would ſurmiſe the leaſt Hint to the contrary.

While *Scotland* was a diſtinct Government, though under the ſame Sovereign, it was found the moſt difficult Thing imaginable, ſo to temper the Intereſts and Humours of the two Nations, that no ſudden Claſh ſhould throw Both into Confuſion.

Thus, when the Affair of the *Succeſſion* came firſt into Debate, the *Scots* Parliament prepared their famous *Act of Security*, that they might either be in a Condition to have a King of their own chuſing; or to inſiſt on admitting ours on their own Terms: Our Miniſters were under the cruel Neceſſity of giving way to it, and nothing but the Treaty of *Union* could have obviated the Miſchiefs juſtly apprehended from it.

In ſhort, it may be ſaid, that the peaceable Eſtabliſhment of the illuſtrious Houſe of *Hanover*, on the Throne of *Scotland* at leaſt, was owing to that ſalutary Act; which is the true Reaſon, that ſo many various Practices have, from Time to Time, been ſet on foot, to render it equally odious to both Nations.

There is a certain *ſcurrilous Rhapſodiſt*, who, but the other Day, without expreſly mentioning the *Union*, adventured to lay his *leaden* Ax to the very Root of it: For the manifeſt Scope and Drift of his Invective is, to perpetuate the Idea of two ſeparate Nations, to

eſtabliſh

eſtabliſh a Perſuaſion that they have ſeparate Intereſts, and from thence to work up a perpetual Quarrel between them; from which none but our common Enemies can poſſibly derive any Advantage.

It is true, that he takes ſome little Care to guard againſt this Concluſion, by ſuggeſting, that all he deſires with reſpect to the *Scots* is, That they may one and all ſtand for ever excluded, not only from a Share in the Truſts, Profits, and Honours of our Government, but from being Joint-adventurers with us in the Arts, Sciences, and Profeſſions, and even paſſing the *Tweed*, for the Benefit of that Traffick which he is pleaſed to indulge them with. "*So they* keep *beyond the* Tweed,"—is his own elegant Phraſe. But while he affects to guard againſt this one Objection, he expoſes himſelf to a Thouſand.

By the Articles of the *Union*, it is provided in general, That the two Kingdoms ſhall thence-foreward be one; to be ſubject to the ſame Head, repreſented by the ſame Body, and bound by the ſame Laws; and in particular, "That all the Subjects of the United King-
" dom of *Great Britain* ſhall have full Freedom and
" Intercourſe of Trade and Navigation to and from
" any Part or Place within the ſaid United Kingdom
" and the Dominions thereunto belonging: And alſo,
" that there ſhall be a Communication of all other
" Rights, Privileges, and Advantages, which do or
" ſhall belong to the Subjects of either, except ſuch as
" are excepted in thoſe very Articles."

How then is it poſſible to ſet ſuch a Mark on the *Scots* as this *Termagant*-Declaimer ſo peremptorily demands, without trampling theſe Articles under Foot, together with the publick Faith, on which they are founded? And with what Face can he ſay, "I ſee no Reaſon why
" *they* ſhould bear Commiſſions in thoſe (Regiments)
" of *our own Country*, and ſo conſequently command
" them. An *Engliſhman* ought not to be put under
" the Dominion of a *Scot*."?

Beſides,

Beſides, the Diſtinction of *Engliſhman* and *Scot* is at an End: The Term *our own Country*, thus invidiouſly appropriated, by this frantick Incendiary, belongs equally to both, whether on this or the other Side of the *Tweed*. There can be no ſuch Excluſion as he contends for; (all *Britons*, who qualify themſelves as the Law directs, being equally in a Capacity to hold Places and Preferments) and this ridiculous Attempt of his, can only ſerve to widen the Breach that was on the Point of being cloſed; to looſen all remaining Connections, and to revive thoſe fooliſh and fatal Antipathies on both Sides, which were almoſt eradicated.

The *Scots* cannot be more prone to hate the *Engliſh*, than the *Engliſh* to hate and deſpiſe the *Scots*; and if this had not been a known Truth, this Scribbler had not inſulted the Publick with his brutal and ſcandalous Paper: Miſchief is manifeſtly the whole Drift of his Intentions; and he thought no Way was ſo likely to ſerve his Purpoſe as to tie Firebrands between the two Nations, and to make them the mutual Inſtruments of each other's Ruin.

His abuſive Character of the *Scots* as a Nation, and his adopting the Venom of *Cleaveland*'s Wit to ſupply the Defects of his own, I paſs over with the Contempt it deſerves: But when he pretends to argue, as, in effect, he does, That becauſe the late Rebellion was the Growth of *Scotland*, all the *Scots*, without Diſtinction, are hereditary Traitors, and ought to be regarded accordingly; I think it is of Conſequence to warn the Weak and Unwary from falling into the Snare. The Devil is never ſo prevalent, nor withal ſo much a Devil, as when he perſonates an Angel of Light: And while we think we are following the Direction of our own Zeal for the preſent happy Eſtabliſhment, we may be miſled by this treacherous Guide, into real *Jacobitiſm*. I ſay *real Jacobitiſm*; for, in not allowing our Friends the Merit of their Services, we teach them to become

Enemies;

Enemies; and he that aſſiſts the Cauſe, may as well embrace the Principles on which it is eſtabliſhed.

Now it is notorious to the whole World, notwithſtanding the impudent Aſſertions of this virulent Railer, that even in the *Highlands*, where the Flame firſt broke out, many of the *Clans* not only maintained their Integrity, but performed excellent Service; that the *Lowlands*, in general, continued loyal, even when left expoſed to the Mercy of a victorious Enemy, and under all the Terrors of military Execution; that the Clergy of the eſtabliſhed Church diſtinguiſhed themſelves in a moſt remarkable Manner, by a ſteady Adherence to the true Intereſt of their Country, and praying for the true Father of it, when ſurrounded with the Swords of the Rebels; that many of the *Epiſcopalians* did the ſame; and that the far greater Part of the Nobility, Gentry, and Commonality, never ſwerved, in any one Particular, from their Duty and Allegiance.

And this being the true State of the Caſe, may not Foreigners lay the Guilt of the Rebellion on the *whole Iſland* of *Great Britain*, with as much Juſtice as we can make the *whole People* of *Scotland* anſwerable for the Guilt of a *Part* of them? Is it poſſible to account for the injurious Treatment they have received from this licentious Pen, except on a *Jacobite* Principle? Is it not fair to conclude, that the Over-Proportion of Loyaliſts amongſt them, not of Rebels as is ſuggeſted, hath occaſioned all this Outcry? As alſo, that we of the *South* are called upon to join in it; that their *national* Pride and Reſentment may render them *unanimous* when the next Opportunity offers? Can it be denied that the *pretended Prince Regent*, in his ſecond Declaration, avow'd, *That he could not ratify the* UNION? Hath it not been proved, that this Writer, under the Notion of abuſing the *Scots*, hath virtually clamoured for its Diſſolution? And, having adopted the ſame Principle, doth he not in Effect acknowledge himſelf to be of the ſame Party?

More

More need not be said to expose the wicked Purpose of this seditious Writer. And much less, perhaps, would have served; for Inconsistency answers itself, and Impertinence deserves no Answer at all.

What I have farther to add, therefore, is only a Word of Caution, that it may not be thought I am running from one Extreme to another; or, because I have opposed a general Proscription of our Northern Brethren, that I stand up for a general Absolution. I have no such Intention. It is as agreeable to true Policy to set a Mark on the Guilty, as to protect the Innocent; and as we know from what Root the late Disorders sprung, it is but Self-Defence to rid the Soil of so pernicious a Growth.

Had the Vassalage of the *Highland-Lords* been dissolved when the first Rebellion demonstrated the Necessity of it, the last had never happened; detached from their Lords, and made acquaint with the Sweets of Liberty and Property, they had never drawn their Swords, but in Defence of that Government, under which alone they could be free and happy.

All therefore that I presume to expect from the Wisdom of the Nation is, That all those petty Tyrants may be disarmed of their Terrors, and reduced to the common Level of Subjects. That every Subject may be authorized to say, that he owes *Suit* and *Service* to none, but his King and Country. That from the Rebels, the injurious Prerogatives they have so long possessed, and so perfidiously abused, may be resumed, by Way of Forfeiture; and from the Loyalists by Way Compromise. A loyal Father may have a Traitor Son. And it is the Duty of the Supreme Power to prevent, as well as punish Misdemeanors.

I am, &c.

A BRITON.

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